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COUNTRY	Austria (Russian Zone)
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SUBJECT Soviet-Controlled Industries in St. Poelten

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ORIGIN

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1. Erste Oesterreichische Glanzstoff-Fabrik, St. Polten

Production is stated to be in full swing, and all finished articles are shipped to the USSR. Of the raw materials needed, wood comes from Austrian sources and rags are brought from the USSR. The number of workers and employees is 1,317; these work three 8-hour shifts. Virtually all the machinery which was removed by the Soviets has now been returned, including all automatic spinning machines and most of the looms. The ring spinning machines are all new. The dyeing department is idle because of the shortage of dyes, but the dressing department is operating again. The pay is reported to be good; workers receive additional bonuses of food-stuffs, fuel, and clothing.

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2. Maschinenfabrik u. Giesserei J. M. Voith, St. Polten

This Soviet-controlled turbine factory employs 850-900 men. At present, eleven Kaplan type and forty-six Milnowski type water turbines are being produced for the Soviets. Several Austrian firms who were trying to do business with Voith were told that deliveries of motor castings would only be made against payment of Swiss francs or dollars, or on a barter basis in exchange for lead, copper, or tin. At this plant Austrian engineers receive a minimum salary of 900-1000 schillings a month plus very liberal bonuses.

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